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FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1900.

Although the Chinatown fire was
considered a God-send, the tone of the
Japan press suggests that the Japanese
are not prepared to admit that any of
their Gods were mixed up in it.

That local officials anticipate the ar-
rival of special agents to look into the
post office and custom house work, as
conducted by an incomplete force, is
one of the best reasons for strengthen-
ing the belief that a serious mistake
has been made in running these de-
partments with a reduced force.

No one can object to Mr. Girvin's
sympathy for the Chinese. This is a
matter of opinion to which every man
has a just claim. The difficulty in Mr.
Girvin's Federal work is that he al-
lowed his sympathy and private in-
terests to get the best of his duty as
an assistant in what is practically a
national department.

While the last despatches make no
special mention of Hawaii, the passage
of the Porto Rico bill in the House
clears the pathway for the Territorial
bill. In the Senate the conference com-
mittee report on the Finance bill and
oration on the Philippine question have
impeded the progress of Hawaii. No
serious stumbling blocks have appear-
ed, and headway is being made as
rapidly as could be expected.

There can be no difference of opinion
on the question of building shacks in
this town. As has been suggested by
the Bulletin, public and private inter-
ests will be best served by property
owners taking a personal interest in
the character of buildings erected and
care of the premises by lease holders.
If this is too much to expect of the
community it is certain that the peo-
ple will be ever on guard to prevent
old Chinatown being raised in districts
which have previously been free from
overcrowded and filthy houses.

Good cheer over the surrender of
General Cronje has been short lived in
consequence of Buller's failure to make
the headway anticipated after Roberts'
victory. As a matter of fact Cronje's
magnificent defense strengthened the
Boer fighting spirit, and the loss oc-
casioned by his surrender has not dis-
courage the Boers or their sympathiz-
ers. Ladysmith has not been re-
lieved and unless Roberts can make a
rapid advance, present indications
point to the possibility of White being
unable to hold out till relief arrives.

Progress Made on
the Cable Report

Washington, Feb. 27.—The Pacific
cable bill was considered by the House
Committee on Commerce today and
much progress was made with the ex-
pectation that the final form of the
measure would be secured during the
day. As heretofore decided, the bill
of Mr. Sherman of New York, author-
izing the Postmaster General to con-
tract with an American cable company
to transmit cable messages to Hon-
olulu, the Philippines, Japan and other
Pacific points, was the bill considered.
The provision that the cable shall be
laid "from a suitable point on the Pa-
cific Coast" was changed to the specific
provision that it be from a point at or
near San Francisco.

Mr. Corliss of Michigan secured the
insertion of the following provision:
"That the cable shall be first class
in material, construction, equipment
and operation, and capable of transmit-
ting not less than 120 letters per min-
ute. They shall be of American man-
ufacture and laid and maintained by
ships flying the American flag; provided
if, after the advertisement, it ap-
pears to the satisfaction of the Post-
master General that a cable of Ameri-
can manufacture cannot be laid with-
in the period herein prescribed after
the award is made, said cable may be
secured from foreign mar.ets."

Another change fixed the time of
completing the line to Honolulu at
January 1, 1902, instead of 1903, and
the line to Manila and Japan by July
1, 1902, instead of 1903.

The Evening Bulletin, 7c cents per
month.

How Japan Viewed
The Chinatown Fire

The Jiyu Tsushin reports that on the
morning of the 19th of last month, the
principal business men of Honolulu
met in the Chamber of Commerce of
that city and passed a most arbitrary
resolution to the effect that all the
merchandise from the Orient should be
burnt, as a pest measure, and that
such of this merchandise as was to be
found in the isolated section of the
city should first be devoted to the
flames, two-thirds of the invoice price
being allowed to the owners of the
condemned goods by way of compensa-
tion.

The resolution was immediately af-
terward submitted to the Government
of the island, which in turn convened
a meeting of the Sanitary Board. The
latter body at once adopted this most
unjust of measures and further de-
cided to ask the Government for a dis-
bursement of \$200,000.

The same day the Cabinet accepted
the measure and granted the request
and the burning was fixed for the fol-
lowing day, the 20th. Getting wind of
this unexpected turn of affairs, the
principal Japanese merchants of the
city held in the meanwhile a meeting
at which their Consul Saito was pres-
ent, and drew up a series of representa-
tions designed to fully protect their
interests, for presentation to the Gov-
ernment of Hawaii. They were about
to take steps in the matter when a
fire broke out in that section of the
city which the City Fathers had pre-
viously decided to be burned down.
The flames spread far and wide and the
inhabitants in that section—who num-
ber close on 3,000 including over 800
Japanese were panic stricken. Those
who attempted to escape from the fire
beyond the isolated section were mer-
cilessly intercepted by sanitary officials.

The predicament in which the Jap-
anese residents were thus placed was
communicated by some Japanese to our
Consul, who thereupon called on the
Director of the Sanitary Bureau and
the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Thanks
to their joint efforts the home-
less sufferers were removed to places
of safety. The Japanese Medical and
Charity association managed to supply
provision to over 600 people who had
suffered by these very vigorous mea-
sures, up to the 21st ult., when the Ha-
waiian Government signified that it
was ready to adopt relief measures.

Under these circumstances the gen-
eral impression was that, as the Ha-
waiian Government had contemplated
burning the merchandise owned by
Japanese and Chinese residents, it
looked on the accidental (?) fire which
consumed houses and merchandise as
well as more or less of a God-send.
Presumably to prevent any demonstra-
tive agitation by the Chinese and
Japanese sufferers, the Minister of
Justice proceeded a few days after the
conflagration to the stations which
sheltered the sufferers and delivered a
consolatory speech to the effect that
the Government would make the best
compensation possible against the
damage they had sustained by the fire
which was, the Minister asserted, a
mere accident.—Japan Times.

Lecture on Municipalities.

E. M. Boyd will deliver a lecture be-
fore the Literary Club of the Y. M.
C. A. Monday evening next at 8 o'clock,
on "The Organization and Conduct of
a Municipality." This is a very appro-
priate topic to be discussed at this
time and will be a good treat for the
young men. The members of the Club
invite the members of the Association
and their friends to come.

Senator Gear's Hat.

Senator Gear wears a soft felt hat.
He does not leave it in the cloakroom,
but carrying it into the Senate
throws it down upon the floor. As Mr.
Gear's desk is on the center aisle, his
black felt hat is the most conspicuous
object in the Senate chamber.

The experiences of Gear's hat dur-
ing the Senate sessions would make a
book, if they could be related at length.
Senator Stewart, who sits behind Gear,
comes along and awkwardly, from
the hat a dozen feet. It emerges from
the collision in a badly demoralized
shape, but Gear reaches out, gathers
in his head covering and resumes his
reading. Presently the hat is en-
countered by the toe of another states-
man and goes sailing away over the
floor. Then Gear reaches out for it
again.

Some of these days Senator Gear
will put a brick in his hat, and then
when a Senator comes along and kicks
it, there will be trouble.—Washington
Post.

An Ambassador's Breeches.

Foreign ambassadors on court oc-
casions wear trousers with a broad gold
band running down one side of the
legs—trousers that closely resemble
those worn by certain attendants that
can be seen standing outside licensed
houses of refreshment. When, how-
ever, an Ambassador appears before
the Queen he has to wear knee
breeches. A few nations, for the most
part unimportant ones that pride
themselves on being up-to-date, have
refused to allow their representatives
to follow this antiquated custom. In
these cases the diplomats seeing that
they must wear something different
from their every day dress, have de-
cided to wear lavender colored trousers
with broad gold bands running down
the seams. If they had only come un-
der the influence of William Morris
they might have chosen the more regal
purple as the color of their nether gar-
ments.—S. F. Chronicle.

The Am. sp. Lucille cleared today for
San Francisco with a cargo of 4,147,424
pounds sugar valued at \$164,945.99.

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and among a people containing families which can
trace back their ancestry for centuries, that even with
families of no more the ramifications are extraordi-
nary, the ties of relationship often varying from
Peers to Peasants, though all springing from one
tree. The announcement that there is nearly \$400,000,000
in money and estates going begging sounds
a little extravagant but it will not appear so extraordi-
nary when it is remembered that the amount is based
on a registered alphabetical list of persons who
have been advertised for all over the world since the
beginning of the century, including chancery heirs,
next of kin, and legatees of persons who have died
intestate in Great Britain, Europe, America and the
British colonies. The main sources of unclaimed
monies are: unclaimed dividends on Government
stocks; dormant funds in chancery; Army and Navy
Pensions; Estates of persons who have died intestate
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